

2/10/63

Almighty God and Heavenly Father, we stand in humble awe before thy mystery and grandeur. O Lord in the quiet of this hour make us aware of thy presence that this prayer may be as of one voice. Quiet our doubting mind, still our spirits that we may truly commune with thee. Even in our ignorance O Lord we see thy power and majesty in the works of thy hand - every spark of life cries out in praise of the Living God; every instance of human goodness and unselfishness witness to thine ultimate perfection; every occasion of human love and warmth shows forth thine own limitless and tender love.

On this day O Lord we pray thy blessing on men of other races: men who have been the victims of human hatred and pettiness. We pray for those who at this moment are courageously waging the battle for the equality that thou hast already given them. We pray O Lord for those whose hatred prompts them to acts of violence and unreason. - Temper their spirits with tolerance and love ~~and~~; shine through the venter of bigotry with thy spirit of mercy and compassion.

We humbly ask thy forgiveness for them - and for ourselves: for the hidden prejudices that dwell in our hearts. Forgive us O Lord - for denying our fellow men of darker skin - what thou hast given them - dignity, freedom & equality. Forgive us for every act of discrimination. Help us to accept all men as thy children: created in thine image.

O God we pray for thy church throughout the world. We pray that Christian men might lay aside their differences and accept their unity under one Lord. We pray for the Lake County Council of Churches - that it may serve thee well in our own area. We pray for the National Council of Churches & the World Council of Churches - that their pioneering steps in Christian unity may be pleasing in thy sight. We pray for our own denomination - and for this, our congregation. May we discover & know thy will: give us insight and courage to lay our lives before thee - individually, & collectively; to do with what thou wilt.

O God of love we thank thee for all ~~these~~ thy gifts to us: - For food and clothes, for families & friends. For nation and state.

We thank thee O God - thou hast seen fit to dwell among us in thy Son Jesus Christ; ~~and~~ that thy love has extended even to death that we might live eternally.

O God of mercy we ^{pray} for those of our own number who are ill and in distress. ~~Mr~~ ^{Mr} Padden, Mr. Severin. O God we ask thy healing and comforting grace for the Shroyers - as their joy is diminished by untimely death.

All this we ask in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - to whom with thee and the Holy Spirit be all glory and all praise - forever and ever - world without end Amen.